Funds for relief to cyclone hit States

1315. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Southern and Eastern States have requested the Centre to provide funds to meet the damages inflicted by the recent cyclones that hit States badly;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has allocated the funds which the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested from the National Disaster Fund;

(c) if so, how much of the total fund is earmarked to pay compensation to the kin of the deceased in the cyclone and to repair roads and other infrastructure facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) None of "the southern and eastern States have requested the Centre to provide funds to meet the damage inflicted by the recent cyclones that hit States badly".

However, States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have submitted memoranda seeking additional Central assistance in the wake of damage caused due to heavy rains/floods as a result of "formation of trough of low pressure area over Bay of Bangal on 17th December, 2007" and "persistence of upper air trough extending from Vidarbha to south Tamil Nadu from 9 to 13th February, 2008" respectively.

There is no Fund called "National Disaster Fund" being operated by the Government. However, financial assistance in the wake of natural calamities is provided to the States from the Scheme of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), which is supplemented by the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The allocations to various States in their CRF are made based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission, which are contributed by the Government of India and the respective State Government in the ratio of 3:1. The assistance from NCCF is contributed fully by the Government of India after following the laid down procedure. For the year 2007-08, the States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh were allocated the following amounts in their CRF:

State	Central share of CRF	State share of CRF	Total allocation in CRF
Tamil Nadu	172.88	57.63	230.51
Andhra Pradesh	284.51	94.84	379.35

Entire Central share of CRF for the year 2007-08 has been released to the States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The allocation of fund in the CRF account of the States is not made particular to any specific natural calamity or for specific damage. The concerned State Governments are required to incur expenditure on providing relief to the affected people and undertaking immediate repair of damaged infrastructure in accordance with the items and norms approved by the Government of India.